

Minutes of a joint meeting of the Logan Municipal Council and the Cache County Council convened on Tuesday, July 29, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. in the Logan Justice Building Public Meeting Room, 290 North 100 West, Logan, Utah, Craig Petersen, Cache County Council, conducting.

Logan Municipal Council members present: Stephen C. Thompson, Jay A. Monson, Tami W. Pyfer, Herm Olsen, and Laraine Swenson. City administration present: City Attorney Kymber Housley, Recorder Lois Price, City Finance Director Richard Anderson, Library Director Ronald Jenkins, Police Chief Russ Roper, Parks & Recreation Director Russ Akina. Mayor Randy Watts was excused.

Cache County Council members present: Craig Petersen, Gordon Zilles, Darrel Gibbons, Brian Chambers, Kathy Robison, Cory Yeates. County administration present: County Executive Lynn Lemon, County Clerk Jill Zollinger, Sharon Hoth, and Pat Parker. County Council Chair John Hansen was excused.

Members of the press and approximately twenty-five citizens were present.

### **RECREATION, ARTS, PARKS & ZOO (RAPZ)/ RESTAURANT TAX ORDINANCE AMENDMENT**

Craig Petersen confirmed that a County ordinance had been adopted stipulating 10% of total RAPZ revenue, after administrative costs, would be allocated to Willow Park Zoo based on an acceptable proposal submitted each year. The ordinance stated funds could be used for either capital projects or operating expenses.

### **FAIRGROUNDS UPDATE.**

Lynn Lemon said a Fairgrounds Advisory Committee met monthly. The dog leash policy had been discussed, and there was a possibility of dogs being allowed off lease in area of the Willow Park Zoo's former elk pens. An area adjoining South Campus was also a possibility for dogs off-leash. Councilmember Olsen said he had received ambivalent comments about allow dogs off-leash from people who used the fairgrounds for horse events.

Lynn Lemon said the Fairgrounds and Willow Park Complex management arrangement was working well. (Although property was jointly owned, management had been divided between the City and County.)

### **CACHE COUNTYWIDE LIBRARY SYSTEM – COUNTYWIDE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Jay Monson submitted a final report to the County and City Councils in behalf of the Cache Countywide Library System Study Committee. Members of that committee (formed in January 2008) were: Brian Chambers, Craig Petersen and Kathy Robison of the County Council; Tami Pyfer and Jay Monson of the Logan Council. Jay Monson was committee chair.

Councilmember Monson said committee members had visited 18 of 19 city/town councils and presented information about the possibility of forming a countywide library system. The next step was for cities and towns to approve a draft resolution and execute an interlocal agreement entering into a Cache County Library System. Cache County would then be approached to form the system.

Kathy Robison reported on a survey of city councils and library boards that addressed funding, accessibility, buildings and programs, and requested general comments. She said there was good participation and response. One misunderstanding that had been clarified was that a county library building would not be constructed. Existing libraries would be branch libraries in the Cache County Library System.

Tami Pyfer reported on Logan's position with regard to a countywide library system. She said as cities and towns were contacted, elected officials wanted to know Logan's position. The Logan Council passed a resolution on May 20, 2008 supporting the creation of a countywide system. "We have always been willing to enter into a dialogue with other entities on library service," she said.

Jay Monson commented that whether Logan built a new library or remodeled the present building, the cost would be Logan's responsibility.

Tami Pyfer said the Logan Council was prepared to move forward to consider a resolution supporting execution by the Mayor of the interlocal agreement.

Craig Petersen reviewed the draft interlocal agreement. He said the committee opted for this approach issues rather than submitting the question to voters. Election timing issues played a part in the decision, but the major reason was that financial impacts varied dramatically by city. "It seemed more fair and cleaner to let each city council make a choice."

Jay Monson added that no county in the state that had been contacted had submitted this issue to the voters.

Craig Petersen reviewed and summarized the major components of the interlocal agreement:

1. Governing Board:

Nine members appointed by the County Executive.

2. Access to system library materials:

Free access to citizens residing in areas that are part of the system;

Creation of an online catalog;

Establishing a courier system to facilitate book delivery;

Access to residents of cities not part of the system would be through purchase of annual library cards at a price set by the board.

3. Finances:

Allocation of revenues determined by governing board;

City share of total revenue determined by value of real and personal property in city relative to value of real and personal property for all entities in system.

#### 4. Ownership of System.

Assets owned by County;

Cities with library debts retain ownership of building until debt is retired. A city may retain ownership of their building. If so, an interlocal agreement will be worked out so county library system pays for the use of the building;

On termination of agreement by either city or county, assets owned by city prior to agreement to be property of city; assets purchased by system will be property of county with right to transfer assets to city.

#### 5. Director and Employees:

Board to appoint system director;

System personnel to be Cache County employees.

#### 6. Elements of Local Control:

Library advisory boards and "Friends of Library" with donations obtained by these types of committees to be retained by branch library;

Special interest programs;

Designation of certain books as non-circulating special collections.

#### 7. Bookmobile.

Board responsibility but may be discontinued if not cost effective.

#### 8. Conditions for Agreement to Become Effective:

Approval of City of Logan;

Approval by Cities representing at least 50% of 2007 Cache County real and personal property valuation outside of the City of Logan;

Cache County Council, by resolution, declares system viable and agrees to begin its operation.

Jay Monson gave some remarks in summary. He said there had been discussion with USU about becoming part of the system. Nothing had been promised or finalized, and USU officials took the issue under consideration. He thanked all those who had helped the committee, including the elected officials of all the cities and towns. He said it was the committee's hope that some type of county library system would be formed. Councilmember Monson said funding of the system would not result in a tax increase for 60% of the county. "When everyone is in this together, advantages go up, and costs generally go down," he said. Jay Monson said that even with a discouraging economic outlook, interest in libraries and library services was positive. He felt a countywide system would save money for citizens. "Thanks to everyone for their support and leadership, and especially thanks to the committee," he said.

Steve Thompson asked if there was anything known about operation and maintenance costs. Craig Petersen said, as a next step, the county would like to employ a professional consultant to study technology and costs, providing assurance the proposal was financially and technically viable. He said the committee based their proposal on contributions from cities of \$2.7 million, but this needed to be refined.

Laraine Swenson said she would like to see: (1) Specific date set for a "reasonable transition period" as called for in the agreement; and (2) Actual cost figures.

Craig Petersen hoped that by October, Logan could be approached as the first city to enter into an agreement for countywide library service.

#### **NORTH CACHE SCENIC BYWAY DESIGNATION.**

Lisa Duskin-Goede, Bear River Association of Governments (BRAG) Heritage Specialist, presented information on proposed designation of a North Cache Historic Scenic Byway. The Bear River Heritage Area had identified a northern Cache Valley loop and hoped that State Scenic Byway designation would increase awareness of values and resources; increase stewardship for management and preservation; and increase funding of heritage tourism initiatives. She said in the future, possibly National Scenic Byway designation would be sought.

Ms. Duskin-Goede explained the process. It was the goal of the Bear River Heritage Area for cities to approve participation in the process (by resolution ) to designate the North Cache Historic Scenic Byway. She said Newton, Clarkston, Cornish, Trenton and Richmond had approved the resolution.

Craig Petersen asked if there were any restrictions with the designation. Ms. Duskin-Goede said Scenic Byway designation did not affect personal property rights, but there were UDOT regulations on outdoor advertising (including billboards). She asked that the resolution approving participation in the process be adopted by both Logan City and Cache County Councils.

Tami Pyfer said she would put the item on the Logan Council's August 5 agenda as a workshop item.

There being no further business to come before the Councils, meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Lois Price, Recorder